

CURRENT LITERATURE

MINOR NOTICES

Das Pflanzenreich.¹—Part 46 is a monograph of the Menispermaceae by Professor LUDWIG DIELS. The author devotes about 45 pages to a general consideration of the family and then establishes 8 tribes which are based largely on the presence or absence of albumen and the character of the endocarp. These 8 tribes embrace 63 genera and 357 species; and approximately one-fifth of the total number of species are new to science. Two new genera are added, namely *Platytnospora*, based on *Tinospora Buchholzii* Engl. of tropical Africa, and *Sinomenium*, based on *Cocculus diversifolius* Miq. of Asiatic distribution.

Part 47 continues the monographic treatment of the Euphorbiaceae by Professor FERDINAND PAX, including only the tribe CLUYTIEAE. The author divides the tribe into four subtribes, namely CODIAEINAE, RICINODENDRINAE, CLUYTIINAE, and GALEARIINAE, depending on the number of stamens and the free or united petals. The tribe embraces 24 genera and about 150 species, 22 of which are new to science. One new monotypic genus (*Uranthera* Pax & Hoffm.) is proposed from the Malayan Peninsula. This part also includes an elaboration of the Cephalotaceae by Professor J. M. MACFARLANE. Only one monotypic genus of this family is known at the present time, namely *Cephalotus* from West Australia.

Part 48 continues the monographic treatment of the Araceae by Professor A. ENGLER, and contains the subfamily LASIOIDEAE to which are referred 18 genera and upward of 130 species, 18 of which are here published for the first time. One new genus (*Dracontioides*) is described, based on *Urospatha dehiscens* Schott of southern Brazil. *Amorphophallus* is by far the largest genus, being represented by about 75 species or more than one-half the total number recorded for the entire subfamily. Numerous and excellent illustrations amplify the text.

Part 49 contains a supplement to the Monimiaceae by Dr. JANET PERKINS, and records the results of a continued study of this family from new material represented in the leading European herbaria, particularly the Berlin herbarium

¹ ENGLER, A., Das Pflanzenreich. Heft 46 (IV. 94). Menispermaceae von L. DIELS. pp. 345. figs. 93 (917). 1910. M 17.40. Heft 47 (IV. 147. iii). Euphorbiaceae-Cluytieae, unter Mitwirkung von KÄTHE HOFFMANN, von F. PAX. pp. 124. figs. 35 (144); (IV. 116). Cephalotaceae von J. M. MACFARLANE. pp. 15. figs. 4 (24). 1911. M 7.20. Heft 48 (IV. 23C). Araceae-Lasioideae, von A. ENGLER. pp. 130. figs. 44 (415). 1911. M 6.60. Heft 49 (IV. 101. Nachträge). Monimiaceae (Nachträge) von J. PERKINS. pp. 67. figs. 15 (112). 1911. M 3.60. Leipzig: Wilhelm Englemann.

through the rich collections of WEBERBAUER and ULE from South America and of MOSZKOWSKI, RÖMER, and SCHLECHTER from New Guinea and New Caledonia. Important data concerning older or little known species are recorded, and more than 30 species new to science are added to the monograph of this family by the same author, published in the *Pflanzenreich* in 1901. One new genus is proposed, namely *Carnegiea* from New Caledonia. All species enumerated are referred to in such a manner that the supplement can be used readily and advantageously with the *Monograph* itself.—J. M. GREENMAN.

The slime molds.—The second edition of LISTER'S *Mycetozoa*² is a notable contribution to our knowledge of these much discussed organisms. The new book follows the principal lines of the first edition, but has been improved and enlarged throughout. Six genera and 70 species have been added, so that the group now contains 49 genera with 246 species. The plates in the first edition were splendid, but those of the present volume are even better, and rank with the best illustrations which have ever been published of any plant structures.

Miss LISTER was constantly associated with her father in the preparation of the first volume, and the present work, published four years after his death, shows that she is able not only to make excellent illustrations, but also to organize and add to the text. It is distinctly a joint publication.

The "passing" of the slime molds is not referred to, the designation "organisms" being used in all cases, so that the title *Mycetozoa* is the only indication that the authors might be inclined to regard the organisms as animals rather than as plants. Until some decisive evidence appears, there is no reason for removing the specimens from the herbarium or for changing the library catalogues.—CHARLES J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Handbook of deciduous trees.—In 1904 SCHNEIDER'S *Handbuch* began to appear, and at the completion of the first volume (1906) it was reviewed in this journal.³ Since that time the six parts constituting the second volume have appeared at intervals, and have been noted. Now the work has been completed with the appearance of the twelfth part and the general index.⁴ As stated in preceding notices, it contains descriptions, with illustrations, of the angiospermous trees of central Europe, both native and under cultivation. The final part completes the dicotyledons (*Fraxinus* to *Metaplexis*), contains

² LISTER, ARTHUR, and LISTER, GULIELMA, A monograph of the Mycetozoa, a descriptive catalogue of the species in the herbarium of the British Museum. 8vo. pp. 1-302. pls. 201. figs. 56. London: Printed by order of the Trustees of the British Museum. 1912.

³ BOT. GAZ. 43:43:214. 1907.

⁴ SCHNEIDER, C. K., Illustriertes Handbuch der Laubholzkunde. Zwölfte Lieferung. Imp. 8vo. pp. 817-1070. figs. 515-628. Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1911. M 5. Also Register. pp. vii+138. M 5.